

2. This issue was originally raised by Mr. Larry Hopkins in a letter to Susan Hudson, Clerk of the Board, dated November 12, 2008.

On July 9, 2009, the Department filed a letter in support of Readsboro Electric's request to combine the investigation in this docket with a proceeding to evaluate a proposed rate increase. The Department is recommending that the Board stay this proceeding until after Readsboro Electric files its request for a rate increase. The Department is also recommending that a prehearing conference in this docket be held in September if Readsboro Electric does not file its request for a rate increase by August 31, 2009. The Department's attorney also indicated that she would not be available for the scheduled prehearing conference.

Due to the unavailability of both the Department's and Readsboro Electric's attorneys, and in anticipation of a tariff filing by Readsboro Electric in August, the prehearing conference that was scheduled for Thursday, July 16, 2009, is rescheduled to Thursday, September 3, 2009, commencing at 1:30 P.M. It will be held at the Public Service Board Hearing Room, located on the Third Floor of the Chittenden Bank Building, at 112 State Street, Montpelier, Vermont. If Readsboro Electric files its proposed rate increase by August 31, 2009, the prehearing conference in the current docket may again be rescheduled.³

I recognize that the Department may identify issues relevant to this investigation in the course of its evaluation of a proposed rate increase request by Readsboro Electric. In light of this, I would ask that the Department provide an update, if possible, on the status of their review of the issues in this docket at the time it files its recommendation to the Board on Readsboro Electric's tariff filing.

3. If Readsboro Electric files its proposed rate increase, and an investigation is opened into that matter, the Board may consider consolidating that docket with this proceeding for the purposes of hearings.

SO ORDERED.

Dated at Montpelier, Vermont, this 23rd day of July, 2009.

s/Andrea C. McHugh
Andrea C. McHugh
Hearing Officer

OFFICE OF THE CLERK

FILED: July 23, 2009

ATTEST: s/Susan M. Hudson
Clerk of the Board

NOTICE TO READERS: This decision is subject to revision of technical errors. Readers are requested to notify the Clerk of the Board (by e-mail, telephone, or in writing) of any apparent errors, in order that any necessary corrections may be made. (E-mail address: psb.clerk@state.vt.us)